

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

4184-0071

<p>S2,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plaintiffs,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-v.-</p> <p>HILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, KIRK ASHTON, as Principal of Northwood Elementary School, and DAVID DIMBLEBY, as former Superintendent of HILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, in their individual and official capacities,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Defendants.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>VERIFIED ANSWER TO THIRD AMENDED COMPLAINT</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Index No.: 21-cv-6500-EAW-MJP</p>
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Defendant HILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (hereinafter referred to as “Answering Defendant” and/or “Hilton Central School District Defendants”), through their attorneys, McGivney, Kluger, Clark & Intoccia, P.C. by way of Verified Answer to the Third Amended Complaint of Plaintiff, respond as follows:

PARTIES

1. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “1” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leave Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

2. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “2” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leave Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

3. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “3” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leave Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

4. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “4” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leave Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

5. Answering Defendant admits only that Hilton Central School District is a public school district located within Hilton, New York. As to the remainder of the allegations contained in Paragraph “5” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and leaves Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

6. Answering Defendant admits only that Defendants Kirk Ashton and David Dimbleby were employed by Hilton Central School District. As to the remainder of the allegations contained in Paragraph “6” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and leaves Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

7. Answering Defendant admits only that Defendant Kirk Ashton was employed by Hilton Central School District. As to the remainder of the allegations contained in Paragraph “7” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and leaves Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

8. Answering Defendant admits only that Defendant David Dimbleby was employed by Hilton Central School District. As to the remainder of the allegations contained in Paragraph “8” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge

to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and leaves Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

9. Answering Defendant admits only that David Dimbleby was the Superintendent of Hilton Central School District. As to the remainder of the allegations contained in Paragraph “9” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and leave Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

10. Answering Defendant admits only that David Dimbleby was an employee of Hilton Central School District. As to the remainder of the allegations contained in Paragraph “10” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and leave Plaintiff to his proof in this regard.

11. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “10” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

12. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “12” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard.

13. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “13” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard.

14. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “14” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard.

15. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “15” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard.

FACTS

16. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “16” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

17. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “17” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

18. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “18” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

19. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “19” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

20. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “20” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

21. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “21” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

22. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “21” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

A. 1st GRADE

23. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “23” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

24. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “24” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

25. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “25” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

26. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “26” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and

leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

27. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "27" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

28. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "28" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

B. 2nd GRADE

29. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "29" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

30. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "31" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

31. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "31" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the

aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

32. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "32" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

33. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "33" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

34. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "34" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

35. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "35" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

36. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "36" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

37. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "37" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

38. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “38” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

39. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “39” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

C. 3rd GRADE

40. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “40” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

41. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “41” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

42. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “42” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

43. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “43” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

44. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “44” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

45. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “45” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

46. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “46” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

47. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “47” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

48. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “48” of Plaintiffs Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

49. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “49” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the

aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

50. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "50" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

D. 4th GRADE

51. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "51" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

52. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "52" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

53. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "53" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

54. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "54" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

55. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "55" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

56. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “56” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

57. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “57” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

58. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “58” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

59. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “59” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

60. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “60” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

61. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “61” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

E. 5th GRADE

62. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “62” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

63. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “63” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

64. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “64” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

65. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “65” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

66. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “66” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

67. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “67” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the

aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

68. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "68" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

69. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "69" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

70. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "70" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

71. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph "71" of Plaintiff's Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

72. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "72" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

F. 6th GRADE

73. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "73" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

74. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “74” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

75. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “75” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

76. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “76” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

77. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “77” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

78. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “78” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

79. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “79” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

80. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “80” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

81. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “81” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

82. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “82” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

83. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “83” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

84. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “84” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

85. Answering Defendant admits only that Defendant Kirk Ashton was put on administrative leave. As to the remainder of the allegations contained in Paragraph “85” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs in this regard.

86. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “86” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

87. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “87” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

88. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “88” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

89. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “89” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff’s Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

90. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “90” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and

leaves Plaintiff to his proofs in this regard. To the extent the allegations contained within the aforementioned paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint may be read to allege a breach of duty and/or liability on the part of Answering Defendant, said allegations are denied.

91. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "91" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

AS AND FOR THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
Against All Defendants
(Negligence)

92. In response to paragraph "92" of Plaintiff's Complaint, Answering Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference all prior responses to the allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as if more fully set forth at length herein.

93. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "93" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

94. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "94" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

95. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "95" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

96. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "51" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

97. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph "52" of Plaintiff's Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant demands judgment in its favor, together with the dismissal of the Plaintiff's Complaint with prejudice, plus other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

AND AS FOR THE SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
AGAINST DEFENDANT KIRK ASHTON FOR
INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

98. In response to paragraph "98" of Plaintiff's Complaint, Answering Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference all prior responses to the allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as if more fully set forth at length herein.

99. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph "99" of Plaintiff's Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

100. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph "100" of Plaintiff's Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

101. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph "101" of Plaintiff's Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

102. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph "102" of Plaintiff's Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering

Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant demands judgment in its favor, together with the dismissal of the Plaintiff's Complaint with prejudice, plus other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

AND AS FOR THE THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION
AGAINST DEFENDANT ASHTON FOR
ASSAULT

103. In response to paragraph "103" of Plaintiff's Complaint, Answering Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference all prior responses to the allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as if more fully set forth at length herein.

104. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph "104" of Plaintiff's Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

105. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph "105" of Plaintiff's Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

106. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph "106" of Plaintiff's Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

107. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “107” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

108. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “108” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

109. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “109” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant demands judgment in its favor, together with the dismissal of the Plaintiff’s Complaint with prejudice, plus other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

AND AS FOR THE FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
AGAINST DEFENDANT ASHTON FOR
BATTERY

110. In response to paragraph “110” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference all prior responses to the allegations of Plaintiff’s Complaint as if more fully set forth at length herein.

111. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “111” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering

Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

112. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “112” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

113. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “113” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

114. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “114” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

115. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “115” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant demands judgment in its favor, together with the dismissal of the Plaintiff’s Complaint with prejudice, plus other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

AND AS FOR THE FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FOR
NEGLIGENT FAILURE OF TRAINING, SUPERVISION, HIRING AND RETENTION

116. In response to paragraph “116” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference all prior responses to the allegations of Plaintiff’s Complaint as if more fully set forth at length herein.

117. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “117” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

118. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “118” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

119. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “119” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs in this regard.

120. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “120” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

121. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “121” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

122. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “122” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

123. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “123” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

124. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “124” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

125. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “125” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

126. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “126” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

127. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “127” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

128. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “128” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant demands judgment in its favor, together with the dismissal of the Plaintiff’s Complaint with prejudice, plus other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

AS AND FOR THE SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FOR
42 U.S.C. § 1983 VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

129. In response to paragraph “129” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, Answering Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference all prior responses to the allegations of Plaintiff’s Complaint as if more fully set forth at length herein.

130. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “130” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as they contain legal conclusions to which no response is required,

except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

131. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “131” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as they contain legal conclusions to which no response is required, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

132. Answering Defendant makes no response to the allegations contained in Paragraph “132” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, as the allegations are directed at parties other than Answering Defendant, except that to the extent any negative inferences can be drawn therefrom, Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained therein.

134. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “134” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

135. Answering Defendant is without sufficient information or knowledge to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph “135” of Plaintiff’s Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs in this regard.

136. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “136” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

137. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “137” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

138. Answering Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph “138” of Plaintiff’s Complaint, leaving all conclusions of law and fact to the Court.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant demands judgment in its favor, together with the dismissal of the Plaintiff's Complaint with prejudice, plus other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

In the event a verdict or decision is rendered in favor of Plaintiff against Answering Defendant, Answering Defendant is entitled to limitations on liability as set forth in Article 16 of the CPLR.

AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Pursuant to Section 4545 and other applicable sections of the CPLR, Answering Defendant is entitled to a set-off against the amount of any verdict of any monies collected from a collateral source of payment.

AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

This affirmative defense is being asserted by counsel in order to preserve it. Presently, counsel is in possession of no such evidence. Depending upon the evidence obtained during the course of discovery and introduced at the time of trial, it may be claimed that Plaintiffs failed to mitigate their damages and therefore any damages, which might otherwise be recoverable, must be eliminated or reduced in relationship to the failure to mitigate damages.

AS AND FOR A FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a cause of action against Answering Defendant.

AS AND FOR A FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

There was no duty or opportunity for Answering Defendant to respond to the conditions alleged by Plaintiff to have caused Plaintiff's alleged damages as set forth in the Complaint.

AS AND FOR A SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Upon information and belief, the hazards alleged to have caused Plaintiff's damages, if present, and its alleged damages, were not foreseeable to Answering Defendant and occurred without knowledge or notice to Answering Defendant. Accordingly, Answering Defendant could not have avoided or remedied the alleged hazards, did not breach any duties owed to Plaintiff, and did not proximately cause the Plaintiffs' alleged damages.

AS AND FOR A SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Although Answering Defendant denies the allegations of the Plaintiff as to any hazardous condition, injuries, and damages alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint, the alleged hazardous condition, injuries and damages, if any, were caused by intervening acts and or superseding negligence of persons or parties over whom Answering Defendant had no control.

AS AND FOR AN EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

In the event of any prior or subsequent settlement entered into between Plaintiff and another person or entity liable, or claimed to be liable in tort for the same injury complained of, Answering Defendant assert all relevant provisions of General Obligations Law 15-108.

AS AND FOR A NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff failed to join a necessary party to the action.

AS AND FOR A TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint must be dismissed for failure to comply with General Municipal Law § 50-h.

AS AND FOR A ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Answering Defendant is a public entity and/or agents of a public entity within the contemplation of sovereign immunity and/or complete and/or qualified immunity, and entitled to all provisions, immunities, exemptions and limitations of same, and are not liable to Plaintiff, or if liable, only as limited by same.

AS FOR A TWELVTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Answering Defendant at all times alleged in the Complaint acted in good faith.

AS FOR A THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Answering Defendant is not guilty of any negligence proximately related to the claims asserted herein.

AS FOR A FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint should be dismissed on the grounds that the Plaintiff's causes of action are barred by the applicable Statute of Limitations.

AS FOR A FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint herein, and each cause of action thereof, fails to set forth facts sufficiently detailed as to "give the court and parties notice of the transactions, occurrences, or series of

transactions or occurrences, intended to be proved and the material elements of each cause of action or defense.” See CPLR 3013.

AS FOR A SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Whatever injuries Plaintiff may have sustained at the time and place alleged in the Complaint were caused in whole or in part by someone over whom the Answering Defendant had no control, and without any negligence or fault or want of care on the part of the Answering Defendant.

AS FOR A SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff’s claims against the Answering Defendant, and any judgment that the Plaintiff receive against the Answering Defendant, must be reduced to the extent of any amount received by the Plaintiffs from other tortfeasors pursuant to General Obligations Law Section 15-108, and in the event that the Plaintiff settle with any codefendant or other tortfeasor, or discontinues against any codefendant, the Answering Defendant reserve their rights under General Obligations Law Section 15-108 to prove any negligence against said codefendants and/or tortfeasors at trial.

AS FOR AN EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Each Answering Defendant plead that if liable at all in this matter, that liability is fifty percent (50%) or less and by reason thereof each such Answering Defendant’s liability to the Plaintiffs for non-economic loss shall not exceed each respective Defendant’s equitable share determined in accordance with the relative culpability of each person or entity causing or contributing to the total liability for non-economic loss.

AS FOR A NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

That the action was not commenced within one year and ninety days after the cause of action arose and is therefore barred by the Statute of Limitations contained in the General Municipal Law Section 50-i.

AS FOR A TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Punitive damages are unavailable against public corporations, including public school districts or their constituent schools, as well as agents of public school corporations, and/or are otherwise not sustainable in this action.

AS FOR A TWENTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff failed to allege facts sufficient to allow the recovery of the damages alleged in the Complaint, including but not limited to the recovery of attorneys' fees or punitive damages.

AS FOR A TWENTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Answering Defendant lacked actual or constructive knowledge of any allegedly dangerous conditions or circumstances.

AS FOR A TWENTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

That the alleged assaults were outside the control of the Answering Defendant.

AS FOR A TWENTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Answering Defendant lacked notice or knowledge of the alleged actions of the employee alleged to have assaulted the Plaintiff.

AS FOR A TWENTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

All of the Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrine of laches.

AS FOR A TWENTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Answering Defendant will rely upon further defenses which become available or appear during discovery proceedings in this action and hereby specifically reserve the right to amend their answer for the purposes of asserting any such additional defenses.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint together with the costs and disbursements of this action, or, in the alternative, that any recovery against Defendants be reduced according to other responsible party's degree of culpability and according to any set-off due to Defendants together with the costs and disbursements of this action, and such other and further relief as to the court may seem just and proper.

**AS AND FOR A FIRST CROSS-CLAIM OVER AND AGAINST
DEFENDANT KIRK ASHTON**

1. In the event that Defendant Hilton Central School District is held liable for all or any part of the damages alleged to have been sustained by Plaintiff, as set forth in the Complaint, or any cross-claims, which liability is expressly denied, such liability will have been brought about and caused solely as a result of the fault, negligence, acts or omissions, want of care on the part of Defendant Kirk Ashton without any fault, negligence or want of care on the part of herein contributing thereto, and as such, is liable to Defendant Hilton Central School District for contribution for the Plaintiffs' proportionate share of any judgment or recovery that Plaintiff may obtain.

AS AND FOR A SECOND CROSS-CLAIM OVER AND AGAINST
DEFENDANT KIRK ASHTON

2. In the event that Defendant Hilton Central School District are held liable for all or any part of the damages alleged to have been sustained by Plaintiff, as set forth in the Complaint, or any cross-claims, which liability is expressly denied, such liability will have been brought about and caused solely as a result of the fault, negligence, acts or omissions, want of care on the part of Defendant Kirk Ashton without any fault, negligence or want of care on the part of Defendant Hilton Central School District contributing thereto, Defendant Kirk Ashton will be obligated to indemnify Defendants= Hilton Central School District for common-law indemnification herein against such loss or damages as it may suffer, including without limitation any judgment entered against Defendant Hilton Central School District and all costs, disbursements, expenses and attorneys fees incurred in the defense of this action, as provided by applicable law.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that demand is hereby made, pursuant to CPLR Section 3011, that Co-Defendant serves an answer to the Cross-Claims asserted herein within 20 days or judgment will be taken against said Defendant by default for the relief demanded herein.

Dated: New York, New York
December 6, 2021

**McGIVNEY, KLUGER, CLARK &
INTOCCIA P.C.**

*Attorneys for Defendant, Hilton Central School
District*

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Via ECF

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VERIFICATION

DANIT L. SIBOVITS, an attorney duly admitted to practice before the Courts of the State of New York, hereby affirms the truth to the following, upon information and belief, under the penalties of perjury:

I am associated with the Law Firm of McGivney, Kluger, Clark & Intoccia, P.C., the attorneys for Defendant Hilton Central School District. I have read the foregoing Verified Answer to Plaintiffs' Complaint and know the contents thereof; that the same is true to my own knowledge, except as to the matters stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters, I believe it to be true.

The grounds of my belief as to all matters not stated upon my own knowledge are the information in the file of my firm, the files, books and records maintained by Defendants in connection with Plaintiffs' claim.

The reason this verification is made by me and not by the Defendant is that the Defendant are not presently in the county where I, the attorney for the Defendant, maintain my office.

By: *Danit L. Sibovits*

DANIT L. SIBOVITS, ESQ

Dated: December 6, 2021

AFFIRMATION OF SERVICE

DANIT L. SIBOVITS, an attorney admitted to practice before the courts of the State of New York hereby affirms the truth of the following under the penalties of perjury:

I am associated with the Law Firm of McGivney, Kluger, Clark & Intoccia, P.C., attorneys of record for Hilton Central School District in the within action.

That on December 6, 2021, I served a true and accurate copy of the annexed Verified Answer to Plaintiffs' Complaint upon all counsel of record for the parties via ECF, and on Co-Defendant Kirk Ashton via email and Certified Mail.

By: *Danit L. Sibovits*

DANIT L. SIBOVITS, ESQ